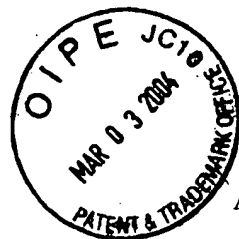


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



INVENTOR:

VAUDREY *et al.*

APPL. NO. 09/593,149

FILING DATE: June 14, 2000

TITLE: Voice-To-Remaining Audio
(VRA) Interactive Hearing Aid
and Auxiliary Equipment

GROUP ART UNIT: 2644

EXAMINER: Devona E. FAULK

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

MAR 05 2004

Technology Center 2600

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 3, 2003, the three month shortened statutory period during which to respond thereto expiring on January 3, 2004 having been extended by two months to March 3, 2004 by authorization to charge all required extension of time fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, Applicants submit the following:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper;

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 6 of this paper and include attached formal drawings as replacement sheets for the as-filed drawings;

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper; and

An **Appendix** with formal drawings to replace the drawings filed on June 14, 2000 is attached following page 9 of this paper.

03/22/2004 VBUTLER 00000006 110600 09593149

01 FC:2252

210.00 DA